

Chapter 8

Imperatives

Imperatives are the forms of the verb used in giving orders, e.g.

ad agrum festinā *hurry* to the field!

in casā manē *stay* in the house!

magistrum audī *listen* to the master!

Orders may be given to one or more persons and so Latin (unlike English) has both a singular and a plural form:

<i>infinitive</i>	1 parāre	2 monēre	3 regere	3 -io capere	4 audire
<i>imperative sing.</i>	parā prepare!	monē warn!	rege rule!	cape take!	audī hear!
<i>imperative pl.</i>	parāte	monēte	regite	capite	audite

Prohibitions, i.e. negative commands (*don't*), are expressed by **nōlī** (singular), **nōlīte** (plural) + infinitive, e.g.

nōlī manēre, Horātia Don't stay, Horatia.

nōlīte clāmāre, puerī Don't shout, boys.

MEMENTO: useful tip: if you take -re off the infinitive, you are left with the singular imperative: **parā(re)**; **monē(re)**; **rege(re)**; **cape(re)**; **audī(re)**.

Exercise 8.1

Translate

- 1 venīte ad agrum, puerī; nōlīte in casā manēre.
- 2 domum redī, Horātia, et Scintillam iuvā.
- 3 ad lūdum festinā, Quīnte; nōlī in viā lūdere.
- 4 magistrum audite, puerī; nōlīte clāmāre.
- 5 in casā sedē, Horātia, et fābulam audī.
- 6 festinā, Horātia; ad fontem sērō prōcēdimus.
- 7 venīte hūc, puellae, et aquam dūcite.
- 8 nāvēs parāte, prīncipēs, et nāvīgāte ad urbem Trōiam.
- 9 urbem fortiter oppugnāte et Trōiānōs vincite.
- 10 nōlī prope nāvēs sedēre, Achillēs, sed comitēs dēfende.

Exercise 8.2

Translate into Latin

- 1 Come in quickly, children, and sit down.
- 2 Come here, Decimus; I want to see your tablet.
- 3 Work hard, Julia; don't play.
- 4 We are working hard, master; and so tell us (**nōbīs**) a story.
- 5 Listen to the story, children, and don't shout.